

State of Michigan
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

William R. Keith

WHEREAS, William R. Keith, a champion for public education, served as a member of the Michigan House of Representatives from January 1, 1973 – December 31, 1982; and again from January 1, 1993 - December 31, 1994; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the House of Representatives, William Keith always fought to enhance learning opportunities for children, served as long-time chairman of the House Education Committee, and chair and member of the Subcommittee on Career/Technical Education Restructure Bill; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith served as Special Administrator to the Speaker of the House and was vice chair of the Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on Career/Technical Education; and

WHEREAS, prior to his election to the House of Representatives, Mr. Keith served as member and president of the Garden City Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith was named Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1963; received the Educational Service Award from the Michigan PTA in 1981; the Legislative Leadership Award from the Michigan School Boards Association in 1986; and was named to the Michigan Education Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith was former chair of the House Retirement, Corporations and Finance, and Colleges and Universities Committees; the Subcommittee on Teacher Licensure and Electronic Fund Transfer and Interstate Banking; and chairman of the Special House Committee on Public Employees Relations Act; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith was a member of the Education Task Force of the National Conference of State Legislatures; represented Michigan on the Education Commission of the States; was a member of the Committee on Education and Labor, National Conference of State Legislatures in 1985; and served as chairman of the Michigan Education Council in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith was appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Michigan High School Commission and was appointed co-chair of the K-12 Ad Hoc Committee in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keith was named to the Federal Republic of Germany Vocational Education Study Group in 1989; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the members of the Michigan State Board of Education hereby express their grief and sorrow at the death of this kind, generous, and gentle man of great strength of character and wisdom; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education convey its condolences and sympathy to Mr. Keith's wife Phyllis, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren in their bereavement.



Adopted February 10, 2009

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman and
Superintendent of Public Instruction